

PRESS RELEASE

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Protection of human beings in the womb is compatible with human rights

LIFE Northern Ireland is disappointed at the decision of the Belfast High Court today which found that the abortion law in Northern Ireland is “incompatible with human rights”.

LIFE Northern Ireland Spokesperson Marion Woods said “The NI law on abortion reflects the democratic will of the people of Northern Ireland expressed through their elected political representatives in the Assembly. This case therefore represents an attempt to change the law against the will of the people of Northern Ireland and the Northern Ireland Assembly.

The majority of people in Northern Ireland continue to believe in the intrinsic value of human life from conception. Human life begins in the womb. How then can the right to protection of human beings in the womb be incompatible with human rights? Even if an individual's human rights under Article 8 is engaged, it does not trump a child's right to life. The first and most fundamental human right should be the right to life.

It is the recognition of the humanity of the baby in the womb that has led LIFE Northern Ireland to advocate care and professional non-directive counselling for pregnant women in difficult situations, whether that be a case of rape, incest or a diagnosis of an unborn baby with a terminal illness. In all of these cases we encourage women to seek professional counselling and care.

We wish to repeat our call for the creation of effective peri-natal hospice type care which would be an invaluable resource for many parents in Northern Ireland. LIFE Northern Ireland continues to educate people about the scientific evidence of development of life in the womb from conception. It is with this knowledge that we can empower women to make life-affirming decisions for themselves and their unborn babies”.

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For further media comment please call the LIFE Media Hotline on 07867 744502

LIFE is a pro-life charity that supports anyone facing a crisis pregnancy, pregnancy loss or after an abortion, and strives to engage, inspire and inform the next generation.